

Delenda Carthago.

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The True Interest of England, in Relation to France and Holland.

AS the Happinefs of our Scituation fecures us from the Invaſion of any, who are not our Maſters at Sea: The ſame Reason makes it altogether againſt the Interelt of *England*, to ſeek to enlarge her Dominions by Conqueſt, upon the Continent: For the Charge of Transporting, beſides the Accidents of the Sea, is ſuch Odds, as ſhe can never wage an equal War.

The Truth of this will appear to any who ſhall read the Wars of *England* in *France*, the vaſt Expence of Blood and Treafure, the many Hinderances and Diſappointments in ſending our Reliefs by Sea; and, after the moſt proſperous Succeſſes, the little Effect and Final Loſs of all.

Which indeed prov'd our greateſt Benefit, by ſending us to live at Home. And I think it very plain that the loſs of *Callice*, and ridding our Hands of all the Seeds of War, the *Garrifons* we had in *France*, was exceedingly for the Advantage of *England*: We call'd them *Bridles* upon *France*, but they prov'd *Sponges* to us, and drain'd more Money from us (and ſometimes Men) than, if employ'd upon the *Fleet*, would have enabled us to bridle *France*, and the *Seas*, and to have extended the Privilege of the *Flag* to both Worlds.

The *Fleet* are the *Walls* of *England*. To Command at *Sea*, not to make Conqueſts by *Land*, is the true Interelt of *England*.

And the ſame Reason makes it the Interelt of *France*, not to meddle with us. He can extend his Conqueſts with fifty times leſs Expence and Hazard upon the Continent. Nor does he deſire more of *England* than not to hurt him.

Accordingly we find that *France* has always endeavour'd to live well with *England*; and indeed they have courted us, and always ſhew'd a more particular Kindneſs to the *Engliſh Gentry*, than to any other Nations, who travelled thither for their Education.

And when we were lately oblig'd to declare War againſt them (for we began with them) yet it was not for any Injury they had done to us, nor had we one to inſtance.

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And by the Issue of all the Wars that *England* ever yet had against *France*, it plainly appears to be the Interest of *England* to have no War with *France*; at least never to carry our Arms into *France*.

For suppose the best, the utmost you can propose, even to conquer *France*, as we did once before: How shall we keep it; What Armies of *English* must we always have there to prevent their Rebellings? Would transplanting of all *England* serve the Turn? Sure such a Conquest would drain and ruine *England*, as the *Indies* have *Spain*.

But suppose we had it and could keep it: Our King would make his Residence in *France*, and *England* would become a Province like *Flanders*, when their *Earls* came to be *Kings* of *Spain*; Or as *Scotland* is now to *England*, which was wisely foreseen by *Hen. 7.* when he, for that very Reason, married his Eldest Daughter to *Scotland*, and his Younger to *France*; thinking it much more the Advantage of *England*, to have the Accession to *Scotland* than of *France*; the Greater always swallowing up the Less, as *Rivers* are lost in the *Sea*.

What then is the Interest of *England* as to *France*? Surely, to grow great at *Sea*, and command the *Trade*, which is our Greatness; but, by all means, to let alone their *Continent*; where a Conquest would prove our own Destruction.

Let us now look how our Interest stands as to *Holland*.

It is Interest that governs Kingdoms. Nations do not fall in Love with one another, as particular Persons do for their Beauty. The Publick still moves by Interest, and that will never lye.

The Interest and Life of *Holland*, all the World knows is *Trade*. It is Advantageous to others; but it is Necessary to them. Their *Continent* cannot make them live: Therefore whoever rivals their *Trade* must be irreconcilable to them; nor can they ever be true and hearty to such.

*England* has been their only mighty Rival for the *Trade* of the *World*: Whence that wise Chancellor of *England*, the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, in his Speech to the Parliament, 5. Feb. 1672. lays it down as a Maxim never to be forgot in *England*. Let this be remembered (saith he) The States of *Holland* are *England's* eternal Enemy, both by Interest and Inclination: And he gives the Reason, because

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we are *their only Competitor for Trade and Power at Sea, and who only stand in their Way to an universal Empire, as great as Rome.*

Then he shews how true they have been to their *Interests*, in working all the Mischief they could to *England*, not only by violent, but false and treacherous Ways: And he instances in their Breach of *Treaties*, both in the *Surinam* and *East-India* Business; and their height of *Insolence*, to deny us the *Honour and Right of the Flag*; and that, though it had been owned by them in the *Treaty of Breda*, yet they disputed the *King's Title* to it in all the Courts of *Christendom*, and made great Offers to the *French King*, if he would stand by them against us.

Lastly, He compares them to *Carthage*; and us to *Rome*, that is, that it was impossible both should stand upon a Ballance; that if we do not master their *Trade*, they will ours. *They or We must truckle.* One must and will give the Law to the other. There's no Compounding, where the Contest is for the *Tide of the whole World*.

No *Treaties*, no *Alliances* will, or ever did bind them to us, longer than till they could make an Advantage by us. After a firm Treaty in 1619, ensued the Murder of the *English* at *Amboyna* in November 1624, and other Depredations in the *East Indies*. You may see a whole History of their Breach of *Treaties*, and most *Barbarous* and *Perfidious* Cruelties upon the *English*. By Dr. *Stubbe*, Printed in 1673. " Since *K. James the First* (says he) reigned in " *Great Britain*, they have neither kept any League in reference " to *Trade* and *Commerce*: That rich Trade we had into the " *East-Indies*, at *Japan*, *Amboyna*, *Banda* and the *Moluccoes* is totally ruined: Our Islands of *Polelan*, *Palamay*, *Lantere* unjustly " seiz'd into their hands; and the Damages we suffered there are " computed in 1653, at 1656233l. 15s. and we are now totally " excluded those Seas by these *Hollanders*. Their Usurpations there " have been accompanied with Barbarities and Outrages—Besides " the Cruelties of *Amboyna*, they exercised innumerable others, as " appears by the Depositions from 1616 to 1620: Printed at London A. D. 1622.

" The *English* Ships being taken and their Goods confiscated, " the Captains, Souldiers, Factors and Mariners were made Prisoners, clogg'd with Irons, kept in Stocks, bound Hand and Foot,

" tied to Stakes, haling and pulling them with Ropes about their  
 " Necks, spurning them like Dogs, throwing them headlong down  
 " Rocks and Cliffs, murdering some, and starving others to death:  
 " Some were landed among the *Indians*, where they found better  
 " Usage among the *Paynims*, than the *Protestants* of *Holland*: Some  
 " were so lodged, that they were forced to tumble in their own  
 " Excrements, not being permitted to go forth to ease themselves.  
 " *Lawrence Ryall*, the *Dutch General* caused *Grates* and *Cages* to be  
 " made, and carried the *English* therein fettered, and shewed them  
 " triumphantly to the *Indians*, at every Port, saying, Behold and  
 " see, here is the People of that Nation, whose King you care so much  
 " for; now you may see how kindly we use his Subjects. They have rob-  
 " bed the *Indians* under *English* Colours, thereby to incense them  
 " against us, and to destroy our Trade there. They have counter-  
 " feited the Coin of other Nations, and then defamed the *English*  
 " for it. The Traffick of *China* and *Persia* &c. was ruined by their  
 " seizing and destroying the ships of *Sir Wm. Courteen* and his  
 " Partners. We did by our Ambassador *St. Johns*, demand satis-  
 " faction for all these Damages, and charged them with the Bloud  
 " of the *English* that had been slaughtered by them in the *Katha-*  
 " *rine* and *Dragon*, in these words. Though we cannot

M.S. Speech  
 of Mr. St. Johns.  
 See also the  
 Printed Account  
 of John Davell,  
 A. D. 1665.

" positively prove, yet by good Circumstances, we can make  
 " it appear, that you did destroy the Ships *Dragon* and  
 " *Katherine*, though the Ships and Men were never  
 " heard of, yet the Guns and Goods of those Ships have  
 " been found in your Countrey, which does give us some  
 " confidence to believe you did destroy the Men and Ships.

The Remon-  
 strance of G.  
 Croom, Esq;  
 Printed 1662.

" And we are informed that some of your own Countrey-  
 " men when they lay on their Death Beds, did make Con-  
 " fession of the Cruel Murthers and Seisures: How that  
 " they met them going to the Cape of Good Hope, and  
 " and after a friendly Salutation, the Dutch invited the *English*  
 " Commanders aboard; and after they had been feasted, they told them,  
 " that it was fitting They should drink Lustick, as well as eat Lustick;  
 " and causing them to be tied back to back, they were cast into the Sea.  
 " And in the Evening when the *English* expected the Return of their  
 " Commanders and their Crews, the Dutch with their own and *English*  
 " Boats, went aboard the *English* Ships, and served every Man in  
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" the same manner : and having taken out what Goods and Guns they  
 " thought fit, the Ships were sunk by them ; the which were worth  
 " according to the Invoice, had they come to the Port of London,  
 " 170000*l*. In Guiney and Brasile we have been treated with the  
 " same Usage : And the Dutch have been always either acting O-  
 " pen Hostilities, or, which is worse, destroying the Honour and  
 " Renown of our Nation in Spain, Italy, Russia and all places whi-  
 " ther a Dutch-man trades Therefore we were then convinced,  
 " That the true way to advance the English Trade, was to reduce the  
 " Hollanders to greater Moderation.

Much more to the same Purpose you will find in the abovesaid Au-  
 thor, and in many others of the *English* Nation.

But above all things the most astonishing and down-right Diabo-  
 lical, exceeding even the Treacherous and Bloudy Massacre of the  
*English* at *Ambiyna*, being done in time of Peace, and the chief Actors  
 thereof justified and preferred by the *States*, when Complaint was  
 made against them, and Justice demanded : But it exceeds all this,  
 and all that ever was heard of any Nation which bore the name of  
*Christian* ; the Wickedness of all Nations is exceeded by what the  
*Dutch* did and still continue to do at *Japan*.

They incensed the Government there against the *Christians* who  
 traded thither, representing them as People of dangerous Principles,  
 as to Government, and plotting of Insurrections : Whereby they pro-  
 cured the miserable Slaughter, with horrible Tortures and Torments,  
 of above 400000 *Christians* in that Kingdom, and denying them-  
 selves to be *Christians* (wherein some think they told no Lie) they,  
 by that means, ingross the Trade of that wealthy Island to them-  
 selves.

And if they can dispense even with their *Christianity*, to promote  
 their Trade ; what Obligations can we but upon them that will  
 make them false to their Supream God, *Interest* ?

But we need not go so far as the *Indies* to find Instances of the  
 Designs of *Holland* to ruine *England*. There is a surprising Passage  
 in the *London-Gazette*, 30th of April 1666, which is *verbatim* as  
 follows.

At the Sessions in the Old Baily. John Rathbone, an old Army  
 " Colonel, William Saunders, Henry Toucker, Thomas Flint, Thomas  
 " Evans, John Myls, William Wascot and John Cole, formerly  
 " Officers

“ Officers and Souldiers in the late *Rebellion*, were Indicted for conspiring the Death of his Majesty, and the Overthrow of the Government; having laid their Plot and Contrivance, for the Surprisal of the *Tower*, the killing of his Grace the *Ld. General*, Sir *Fohn Robinson* Lieutenant of his Majesty's *Tower of London*, and Sir *Richard Brown*, and then to have declared for an equal Division of Lands, &c. The better to effect this Hellish Design, the City was to have been fired, and the Portcullis to have been let down, to keep out all the Assistance, the Horse-Guards to have been surpris'd in the Inns where they were Quartered; several others having been gained for that purpose. The *Tower* was accordingly viewed, and its Surprise ordered by Boats over the Moat, and from thence to scale the Wall; one *Alexander*, who is not yet taken, had likewise distributed Sums of Money to these Conspirators, and for the carrying on of the Design more effectually, they were told of a Council of the Great ones, that sat frequently in *London*, from whom issued all Orders; which Council received their Directions from another in *Holland*, who sat with the *States*; and that the 3d of *September* was pitched on for the Attempt, as being found by *Lilly's Almanack*, and a Scheme erected for that purpose, to be a Lucky Day, a Planet then ruling which Prognosticated the downfall of *Monarchy*. The Evidence against these Persons was very full and clear, and they accordingly found guilty of High Treason. These are the Words of that *Gazette*: and let me only mind the Reader, That the City was fired the very Day which was there mentioned; that is, the Fire began about 12 at Night, the 2d of *September* 66, or early on the 3d, which was the first Day of the Fire.

This makes it a Demonstration, that the *Dutch Plot*, mentioned in that *Gazette*, could be no Contrivance of the Government, in Odium to the *Dutch*; if that could be so much as suggested, or so base an Imputation laid, not only upon the Court but the City it self, which, in her Sessions, should take away the Lives of Men for any such *Sham Plot*: I say nothing of this can be possible, unless you will suppose, that the Government and the City both designed the burning of the City upon that Day (and if so they would not have told it); or otherwise that they had the Spirit of *Prophecy*, to foretell the burning of the City five Months before it came to pass.

But these Conspirators had laid their Design, and would not slip that Lucky Day, the 3d of September, on which Oliver conquered first Scotland, at the Battle of Dunbar, and after the Loyal Party in England, at Worcester Fight; both which happened to be upon the 3d of September, which Oliver reckoned to be his Lucky Day; and it held so to him to the end: For on that day he brought the greatest Blessing to England that ever Subject did: On that day only he verified what he had so often promised, to relieve England from Tyranny and Arbitrary Power, and to open the way to a Glorious Reformation, all this he performed, for on that day, on his own Lucky Day, he died, or, as his Enthusiast Banditi boasted, was carried, like Elijah, to Heaven in a Whirlwind; whither that carried him, or whence it was sent, we will not examin; only we may take notice, That he who raised Rebellion to cure Superstition, observ'd his Lucky Days; and these Conspirators of whom we are speaking, were some of his Godly Army. These gain'd with Dutch Reformers, not only observe Days, but cast Schemes and go to Fortune-Tellers, any thing—go to the Devil himself, for the Good Old Cause! The End sanctifies the Means.

How far the Devil's Chain may reach, I cannot tell. But if there be such a thing as Spells, to cause Men Love or Hate; most certainly the Dutch have made us drunk with it: Not only to Love and Dote upon them, who, at this very Day, use all our Men like Doggs, who go over thither to fight for their Countrey (which they will not do themselves) and Clip our Money publickly, which, when they have done, they pay to the English only (for no other Nation will take it from them) by the Coyn, and will receive it from them only by the Weight; which is proclaiming us for Fools to our Faces: And as such, they have begg'd us. To fall in Love with these Dutch, who use us ten times worse, when we fight for them, and take less care of our Sick and Wounded, than the French against whom we fight! And yet to hate and abhor the French, the more they court us! As if it were the Nature as it is the Character somewhere given of an Englishman, to be won by Injuries, and provok'd by Civilities, comparing them to their own Countrey Mastiffs.

What is it else can make us have such an unaccountable Hatred to the French, for which we can give no Reason, they having never done us any hurt, but when we began, and forc'd them to it, as at pre-

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present? And yet, to doat, as *unaccountably*, upon the *Dutch*, who never yet did us any Good, or neglected doing us all the Mischief they could, when it was in their Power?

If the like Evidence could be produc'd against the *French* for the Burning of *London*, as what is here brought against the *Dutch*?—

But whether it were *French* or *Dutch*, *London* is now fill'd with them both, and there have been more *Fires* of late in *London* than usually has been known. There were no less than five *Fires* in it upon *Sunday* 18 Feb 94. And if there be False Play, it must be *English*, *French*, or *Dutch*. But the *Dutch* will never do us Hurt, as surely as they never did; we must not suspect them: There is some *Witch-Craft* in this!

Is it for their *Religion* that we love the *Dutch*? I wish *Religion*, of any sort had so much Power in *England*! But can they be true to *Religion*, who are content, as in *Japan*, to renounce their *Christianity*, to promote their *Trade*! Or, which is near the same, to *Licence* all *Religions*, for the same Reason, as in *Holland*! To give *Mammon* the upper Hand of *God*!

It is their *Mammon*, their *Interest* (and they have ever been true to it) to ruine *England*.

It is neither the *Interest* of *England* or *France* to Invade or Conquer one another; and they are not the *Aggressors*.

Yet we are *irreconcilable* to *France*, and *unalterable* from *Holland*! As Men blind to their *Interest*, and bent upon their *Ruine*! Like the *Jews* against the *Romans*, *obstinate*, though *unequal* to the War! It prov'd *Their* Destruction; and, if we will not open our Eyes, it must, without a Miracle, be *Ours* too.

We are trying the Experiment how many Losses will Ruine us. And extol the super-abundance of our *Riches*, but not of our *Wisdom*, in bearing up against a continued Series of Ill-Success, without any other Rational Prospect, but of its growing worse and worse, 'till there be no Remedy.

I think I have been a *True Reasoner*: I wish, in this, I may be a *False Prophet*.

L O M P S K E L L U M.

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